

Whether it's his work with community organizations, such as the National Association for the Hispanic Elderly, National Council of La Raza and the Florida Commission on Education Reform and Accountability, Guarione has never forgotten his roots or commitment to provide help for those who most need it. In many ways, his experiences as a Cuban exile have informed so much of what he has done. As a fellow Cuban-American, I know the indelible mark that is left by the struggles of leaving one's homeland and fighting against tyranny. The desire to give back to this great Nation that welcomed so many of us with open arms, as we fled Castro's totalitarian grip, is something Guarione has never forgotten. Even though Guarione will be an irreplaceable voice as he retires from CNC's leadership, his legacy will be the foundation for what I am sure will be CNC's continued success.

TO RECOGNIZE THE SHEPHERD'S
CENTER OF OAKTON-VIENNA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna for its many contributions to the Northern Virginia community. Organized in 1997, the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna provides services to assist older adults to continue living independently and offer programs which supply opportunities for enrichment, learning, and socialization.

2011 has been a year of continued growth for the Shepherd Center. Volunteer drivers provided more than 500 round-trip rides for medical appointments and prescription pickup, a 10-percent increase from 2010. There were 295 round-trips rides for non-medical errands, a 28-percent increase. In addition, hours contributed to Friendly Visits increased 68 percent, ensuring that seniors can stay connected to the community. The Shepherd Center's many other services include assistance with downsizing and decluttering, minor home repairs to help older adults keep their homes safe and livable, and a range of programs designed to encourage active lifestyles and community integration, including Lunch 'n' Life, Adventures in Learning, and various trips and outings.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the Shepherd Center of Oakton-Vienna for the services which enable older adults in our community to age in place and enjoy their golden years with dignity and independence. I thank the many volunteers who generously dedicate their time and efforts to the welfare of our neighbors. Their extraordinary contributions cannot be overstated and are deserving of our highest praise.

EQUAL PAY DAY

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on Equal Pay Day to highlight the persistent

wage gap between women and men. April 17th marks how far into 2012 a woman has to work in order to make what her male counterpart made in 2011. This is a travesty, and a milestone we should not still be forced to mark in the 21st Century.

In the 111th Congress, we passed into law the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which reinforced the ability of women to sue for pay discrimination. This was a crucial victory, but we must continue the fight and finish the job by passing into law H.R. 1519, the Paycheck Fairness Act. As in past Congresses, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of the Paycheck Fairness Act. This bill would narrow the wage gap between men and women and strengthen the Equal Pay Act, which makes it unlawful for an employer to pay unequal wages to men and women that have similar jobs within the same establishment.

The Paycheck Fairness Act would allow women to sue for wage discrimination and receive punitive damages, as well as compensatory damages. Currently, women who seek compensation for unequal pay can only recover back pay, or in some cases, double back pay. While this bill would increase penalties for employers who pay different wages to men and women for equal work, it also provides incentives such as training programs for employers to eliminate pay disparities and grant programs to help strengthen the negotiation skills of girls and women.

Some may argue that these changes are not necessary, but the numbers speak for themselves. Despite greatly increased commitment to the labor force over the past 45 years, women working full time make 77 cents for every dollar earned by a man—less than a 20-percent increase since the Equal Pay Act was signed into law in 1963. In Rhode Island, the median pay for a woman working full time, year round is \$40,532 per year, while the median yearly pay for a man is \$50,567. This means that women are paid 80 cents for every dollar paid to men, amounting to a yearly gap of \$10,035 between full-time working men and women in the state.

Even more troublesome, nationally, African-American women earn 66 cents to the dollar and Latina women earn 55 cents to the dollar compared to men. According to a Census Bureau study, male high school graduates earned \$13,000 more than female high school graduates in 2006. Women with a bachelor's degree employed year-round earned \$53,201, while similarly educated men earned an average of \$76,749. This same study also noted that the pay difference between men and women grows wider as they age.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Paycheck Fairness Act to protect the fundamental right of women to earn equal pay for equal work, to support mothers who just want to be treated fairly by their employers while they provide for their children, and to ensure that daughters still in school can reach their full potential when they graduate.

HONORING THE LIFE OF COLONEL
JOHN K. CARNEY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Colonel

John K. Carney, who dedicated his life to the service of our nation. Colonel Carney passed away on March 17th. He was born on October 31, 1913 in Braxton County, West Virginia. He joined the military in 1941, serving with distinction in the U.S. Air Force in World War II, and for a total of 24 years before retiring in 1966. Colonel Carney supervised an array of management and logistics programs both in the United States and overseas, in South America, Trinidad, Saudi Arabia, and twice in the Philippines. He completed his military service at the Pentagon in the Office of the Secretary of Defense where he headed the joint service planning and negotiating groups to consolidate major logistics functions for the Department of Defense.

Following his retirement from the Air Force, Colonel Carney continued his national service, working for the General Services Administration for 14 years. He helped institute a government-wide national supply system to improve efficiencies and eliminate duplicative functions. Colonel Carney retired from GSA in 1980 as the Director of Supply Policy in the Federal Supply Service, having spent almost four decades of his life in service.

Colonel Carney displayed the same enduring devotion throughout his private life. He was a former Divine World Seminarian who graduated from the Jesuit-run Springhill College in Mobile, Alabama during his military career under "Operation Bootstrap." Upon moving to Springfield, Virginia in 1960, Colonel Carney was dedicated to his local community. He was a founding member of St. Bernadette Catholic Church and a member of the Air Force Association, The Retired Officers Association, and the National Association of the Uniformed Services. Colonel Carney is survived by his wife, the former Adelle Wright, their four daughters, Constance Bedell, Bernadine O'Hare, and Deborah Fowler, all of Virginia, and Catherine Carney of West Virginia, their two sons, Daniel Carney of Georgia and Patrick Carney of Virginia, their 16 grandchildren, and their 19 great grandchildren.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in offering our sincerest condolences to his relatives, and in honoring the life and example of Colonel John K. Carney for his dedicated service to his country, his community, and his family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to being unavoidably detained, I missed the following rollcall vote No. 152 on April 16, 2012.

If present, I would have voted: rollcall vote No. 152—H.R. 3001—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the Raoul Wallenberg Centennial Celebration Act, "aye."